

U.S. Appln. Ser. No. 10/647,347
Docket No.: 2328-050A

REMARKS

In view of the May 24, 2005 Advisory Action, Applicant submits herewith an amendment combining claims 26-29 to form a first independent claim, and to combine claims 26 and 31 to form a second independent claim 31. Claims 27-30 are canceled.

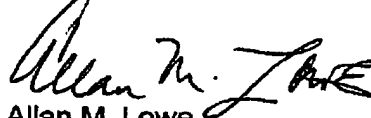
Entry of the amendment is in order because the amendment merely combines claims previously considered by the Examiner. Hence, no new issues or new search is required.

Because Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal on June 9, 2005, the appeal will be devoted to the patentability of claims 26 and 31.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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